

1.5(c)

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DENIED IN FULL

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(17)

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~~SECRET~~~~(classifications)~~~~(declass. controls)~~

1.5 (c)

1. [REDACTED] DECEMBER, GENERAL CESAR BENAVIDES, MINISTER OF INTERIOR, AND COLONEL JAUN MANUEL CONTRERAS, CHIEF OF THE DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE (DINA), BRIEFED [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF DETAINEES AND ON THE INTERNAL POLITICAL AND SUBVERSIVE SITUATION. BENAVIDES SAID THAT SINCE THE SEPTEMBER 1973 MILITARY TAKEOVER, 30,568 PERSONS HAD BEEN DETAINED AND 8450 HAD SOUGHT ASYLUM AND LEFT CHILE, NOT INCLUDING THE CURRENT GROUP IN THE ITALIAN EMBASSY. HE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING BREAKDOWN OF THE 30,568 DETAINED:

1. 22,531 HAVE BEEN PROCESSED AND GRANTED UNCONDITIONAL LIBERTY EITHER IN CHILE OR ABROAD, AND 4,800 OF THAT TOTAL CHOSE THE LATTER AND LEFT THE COUNTRY;

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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**SECRET**

(Classifications)

(Actions permitted)

B. 3,048 HAVE BEEN PROCESSED **BUT** NOT YET SENTENCED:  
C. 505 HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO PRISON **TERMS**:  
D. 3,266 ARE CURRENTLY BEING **PROCESSED**; AND  
E. 1,218 ARE BEING HELD UNDER **PROVISIONS** OF THE STATE OF  
SIEGE AND **HAVE** NOT YET BEEN PROCESSED, INCLUDING  
387 DELINQUENTS **WHO** ARE NOT **BEING** HELD UNDER POLITICAL  
ARGES.

2. IN RESPONSE TO A **QUERY** ABOUT **INDIVIDUALS** WHO CANNOT BE  
LOCATED, **BENAVIDES** SAID THAT **SOME** ARE HELD SECRETLY BECAUSE THEY  
ARE PART OF **SENSITIVE**, ONGOING SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS. HE ADDED  
THAT IF THEIR **FAMILIES** HERE ADVISED OF THEIR DETENTION, IT WOULD  
ALERT OTHERS BEING SOUGHT BY THE SECURITY SERVICES. HE SAID  
THAT IN OTHER CASES, THE PEOPLE INVOLVED HAVE LEFT CHILE ILLEGALLY  
OR GAINED ASYLUM USING FALSE DOCUMENTATION.

3. **BENAVIDES** SAID THAT THE COST TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DETAINEES FOR 1974 WAS ABOUT 600 MILLION ESCUDOS (ABOUT U.S. \$390,000  
AT THE THEN OFFICIAL RATE OF 1,000 ESCUDOS TO THE U.S. \$1.)  
HE SAID THAT OF THE CURRENT 100 DETAINEES WAITING TO GO ABROAD,  
ONLY 16 HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY OTHER COUNTRIES. ONE [REDACTED]  
**PRESIDENT** SUGGESTED THAT 100 DETAINEES BE PUT ON A CHARTERED PLANE

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~~SECRET~~~~(classifications)~~~~(downgrade controls)~~

AND FLOWN TO MEXICO, TO LET THE MEXICANS HANDLE THE PROBLEM.

HE ADDED THAT THEIR EXPECTED REJECTION COULD BE USED TO PUBLICIZE THE RELUCTANCE OF OTHER COUNTRIES TO ACCEPT THEM.

4. BENAVIDES SAID THAT THE 32 HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THE FORMER ALLENDE GOVERNMENT ARE BEING HELD AT THE RITOQUE PRISON CAMP.

([REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] BENAVIDES ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO PROVE ANY KIND OF SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST ANY OF THE 32 OFFICIALS.

[REDACTED], WHO CONFIRMED THE ABOVE FIGURES ON THE DETAINES, ADDED THAT BENAVIDES DID NOT SUGGEST ANY GOVERNMENT PLAN TO FACILITATE THE RELEASE OF ANY OF THE OFFICIALS.)

5. BENAVIDES SAID THERE HAD BEEN A MARKED INCREASE IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS, INCLUDING CONSIDERABLE CONTACT WITH THE FOREIGN PRESS. HE ADDED THAT THE LATTER CULMINATED WITH THE EXPULSION FROM CHILE OF FERNANDEZ UENTE ALBA, LEFTWING LEADER OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC), WHO HE SAID HAD CONTACT WITH THE MOVEMENT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY LEFT (MIR) VIA CLAUDIO HUEPE, ANOTHER LEFTWING PDC LEADER WHO WAS ARRESTED ON 11 OCTOBER. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED]

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SECRET

### Geocart (Geocart)

### *(diagram controls)*

S A I D T H A T F U E N T E A L B A I S N A M E W A S I N C L U D E D , A L O N G W I T H H U E P E A N D  
O T H E R L E F T W I N G P D C L E A D E R S , I N M I R D O C U M E N T A T I O N W H I C H H A S F O U N D  
I N T H E H O M E O F M I G U E L E N R I O U E Z , F O R M E R H E A D O F T H E M I R  
W H O W A S K I L L E D I N A S H O O T O U T W I T H S E C U R I T Y F O R C E S O N 5 O C T O B E R . )

6. FOLLOWING BEAVIDES' BRIEFING, CONTRERAS OF DINA REPORTED THAT THE GROUPS WORKING THE HARDEST AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT WERE THE PDC, THE MIR, AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHILE (PCCH). HE ADDED THAT THE PDC WAS THE MOST DANGEROUS FORCE, AND SAID THAT IT WAS BEING ASSISTED BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES ABROAD. HE SAID THAT THE LEFTING OF THE PDC HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE MIR, AND HAS A SECRET PACT WITH THE PCCH FOR COOPERATION.

7. CONTRERAS SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO ASSISTING THE PDC, THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT ELEMENTS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ARE HELPING THE MIR. AS EXAMPLES, HE CITED RECENT FINDS OF MIR ARMS CACHES IN VARIOUS CHURCHES AND CHURCH PROPERTIES. HE ADDED THAT THE SECURITY FORCES RECENTLY ARRESTED A CATHOLIC NUN COMING FROM ARGENTINA, WHO WAS CARRYING MORE THAN U.S. \$38,000 WHICH WAS TO BE DELIVERED TO THE MIR.

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S E C R E T

DENY IN TOTO

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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(classified/section)

(declass. controls)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

9. CONTRERAS SAID THAT THE PCCH HAS BECOME MORE ACTIVE IN THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, AND THAT SOME 40 PCCH MEMBERS HERE ARRESTED IN EARLY DECEMBER WHILE PARTICIPATING IN POLITICAL MEETINGS. HE SAID THAT DINA ESTIMATES THE PCCH HAS SOME 2,000 MEMBERS WHO ARE ACTIVE IN SMALL RESISTANCE COMMITTEES THROUGHOUT CHILE. THE MAIN WORK OF THESE COMMITTEES IS TO AGITATE AMONG THE WORKERS AND TO PROPAGATE ANTI-GOVERNMENT RUMORS. HE SAID THE COMMITTEES RECEIVE GUIDANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM RADIO MOSCOW.

10. CONTRERAS SAID THAT DINA CONSIDERS THE MIR TO BE ALMOST DESTROYED. HE SAID THAT ONLY THREE MEMBERS OF THE MIR POLITICAL COMMISSION REMAIN AT LARGE. HE ADDED THAT MIR EFFORTS TO REORGANIZE HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY RESTRICTED BY THE CONTINUING PRESSURE EXERTED ON THE TERRORISTS BY THE SECURITY FORCES.

11. (b) COMMENT: [REDACTED] 1.5 (C)  
IN MID-DECEMBER, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SAID THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PDC AND THE GOVERNMENT ARE STEADILY WORSENING. HE SAID THAT DINA IS PRESENTING SOME VERY CONVINCING INFORMATION THAT THE PDC

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*(SAC/Intell/Spec Ops)*

*(SAC/Intell/Spec Ops)*

IS WORKING WITH CHILEAN LABOR IN PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO SUBVERT THE GOVERNMENT.) AFTER CONTRERAS' COMMENTS ON THE PDC, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] COMMENTED THAT

EVENTUALLY THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO HAVE A DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH THE PDC.

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*(SAC/Intell/Spec Ops)*

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